THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The total quantity and value of meat exported is as under:

| Year | Quantity (in MTs) | Value (in Rs. crores) |
|---|---|---|
| 2003-04 | 370466 | 1694 |
| April-Sept.-04 | 157081 | 834 |

Source: APEDA/DGCI&S, Kolkata.

(b) and (c) Under the provision of the Central Sales Tax Act, no central sales tax is levied on the export of goods.

**Export of rubber and rubber products**

4334. SHRI CHO. S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total value of rubber and rubber products produced in the country annually;

(b) what is the local consumption of rubber products in the country;

(c) what is the total value both in quantity and value of exports of rubber products for the last three financial years; and

(d) what steps are taken to increase the export of rubber products in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The total value of Rubber and Rubber Products produced in the country in 2003-2004 was about Rs. 30,000 crores.

(b) The value of local consumption of rubber products in the country is estimated as Rs. 27,000 crores.

(c) The total value both in quantity and value of exports of rubber products for the last three financial years is as under:—

| Year | Quantity of Export (In M tones) | Value of export (in Crore Rs.) |
|---|---|---|
| 2001-02 | 4303 73 | 2040.58 |
| 2002-03 | 105980.49 | 2396.82 |
| 2003-04 | 10146 72 | 2882.00 |

(d) For export promotion of rubber products, participation in specialized overseas trade fairs, trade delegations to overseas countries. Buyer-Seller's Meets etc. are supported under the Foreign Trade Policy.

**High export potential to Iraq**

4335. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great scope and demand for Indian Goods in Iraq;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any initiatives in this regard particularly in relation to export of electrical items, textiles and food items;

(c) if so, the details thereof specifying concessions proposed to be given to boost exports to Iraq; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (d) There is a good scope and demand for Indian goods including electrical, textile and food items in Iraq. As per available information, the Iraqi businessmen are travelling to India to establish contacts with the Indian companies to source their supplies from them. The number of Iraqi businessmen visiting India has doubled over the previous year and Indian Mission in Baghdad is interacting more with Iraqi business firms, replying to more business inquiries and distributing directorie of Indian exporters in CD form. Similarly, Indian businessmen are using the services of their local representatives and the internet to ascertain the available trade opportunities. The Mission